

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FILED
7-13-16
04:59 PM

Order Instituting Rulemaking Concerning
Energy Efficiency Rolling Portfolios,
Policies, Programs, Evaluation, and Related
Issues

Rulemaking 13-11-005
(Filed November 14, 2013)

**MOTION OF RURAL HARD TO REACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS
WORKING GROUP FOR PARTY STATUS**

June 23, 2016

Jon Griesser
Chair, RHTR
Supervisor, Energy and Climate Programs
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos St. #300, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5611
jgriesser@co.slo.ca.us

And

Courtney Kalashian
Co-Chair, RHTR
Executive Director
San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
4747 N. First Street, Suite 140, Fresno, CA 93726
(877) 748-0841
ckalashian@pesc.com

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking Concerning
Energy Efficiency Rolling Portfolios,
Policies, Programs, Evaluation, and Related
Issues

Rulemaking 13-11-005
(Filed November 14, 2013)

**MOTION OF RURAL HARD TO REACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS
WORKING GROUP FOR PARTY STATUS**

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rules 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Rural Hard to Reach Local Government Partnerships Working Group respectfully moves for party status in this proceeding.

II. DISCUSSION

The Rural Hard to Reach Local Government Partnerships Working Group (RHTR) is comprised of eight agencies representing local governments and communities from across the state and spanning three Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs). This motion is made on behalf of the constituency of RHTR, including: Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Community Development Commission of Mendocino County, High Sierra Energy Foundation, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, County of San Luis Obispo, San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization, Sierra Business Council, and Valley Vision.

For each of the members represented by RHTR in whose behalf this filing is being made, a description along with the interests and the factual and legal contentions will now be disclosed.

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) was organized in 1968 for the purpose of regional collaboration and problem solving. AMBAG is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) governed by a twenty-four member Board of Directors comprised of elected officials from each City and County within the region. Since 2005, AMBAG has been active in the implementation and growth of energy efficiency and climate programs in addition to managing the AMBAG Energy Watch local government partnership program since 2006. As a party to this proceeding, AMBAG seeks to provide its unique input as a long-time implementer and advocate of energy efficiency programs in the Monterey Bay region.

The Community Development Commission of Mendocino County (CDC) is a public housing authority located in Ukiah, CA. Since 2009, CDC, its nonprofit Building Better Neighborhoods (BBN), and PG&E have partnered to operate an Energy Watch that is implemented by the Development and Sustainability Department within CDC. The main goal of the Energy Watch is to bring energy efficiency and sustainability solutions to the communities across Mendocino and Lake Counties. Energy efficiency retrofitting projects, benchmarking, greenhouse gas inventorying, and educational outreach have all been components of the Mendo-Lake Energy Watch. CDC seeks to represent the interests of Mendocino and Lake Counties in these proceedings and in statewide policy matters related to energy efficiency and sustainability.

The High Sierra Energy Foundation, a registered 501 (c) (3), has managed a Local Government Partnership with Southern California Edison since 2006. Serving a population of over 30,000 in a land area larger than six states, they want to ensure that energy efficiency programs are accessible by all residents, including very remote communities and Native American communities. The High Sierra Energy Foundation seeks to become a party to this

proceeding to voice its concerns that programs designed for execution in high population density areas of the state are not necessarily effective or equitable for the more rural areas of California.

The Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) was founded in 2003 as a Joint Powers Agency whose members include the County of Humboldt, the Cities of Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna, Rio Dell, and Trinidad, and the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District. RCEA currently implements the Redwood Coast Energy Watch with PG&E. RCEA's purpose is to develop and implement sustainable energy initiatives that reduce energy demand, increase energy efficiency, and advance the use of clean, efficient and renewable resources available in the region. RCEA's interest in the aforementioned proceeding is to represent Humboldt County in statewide policy matters related to energy efficiency and climate action planning.

The County of San Luis Obispo has been a partner in the San Luis Obispo Energy Watch Partnership (SLO Energy Watch) since 2010. SLO Energy Watch's mission is to reduce energy use, cost, and demand, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions in San Luis Obispo County. SLO Energy Watch implements energy efficiency programs serving a variety of local government agencies and small to medium businesses, as well as a climate program. The County of San Luis Obispo's interest in this proceeding is to represent the interests of their rural County in statewide policy matters related to energy efficiency and climate action planning.

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) was founded as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit in 2007 to work with cities and counties and public and private organizations to demonstrate the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout the eight-

county region of the San Joaquin Valley. SJVCEO's work focuses on regional solutions for a variety of issues including advancing the use of local renewables, energy efficiency, demand reduction, and climate action planning and alternative transportation. SJVCEO currently implements the Valley Innovative Energy Watch with PG&E, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company, and the High Desert Partnership for Southern California Edison. As party to this proceeding, SJVCEO is interested in providing input on approaches for statewide and third-party programs.

The Sierra Business Council (SBC) has been an energy efficiency implementer for the past 6 years working with PG&E to operate the Sierra Nevada Energy Watch, and SBC has been a party to several previous CPUC energy efficiency related proceedings. SBC's purpose is to pioneer and demonstrate innovative approaches and solutions to increase community vitality, economic prosperity, environmental quality, and social fairness in the Sierra Nevada. SBC's main aim in participating in this proceeding is to represent the interests of the rural regions of the Sierra Nevada in statewide policy matters related to energy efficiency and climate action planning.

Valley Vision was founded as a 501(c) (3) non-profit in 1994 to provide research, collaboration, and leadership services to make California's Capital Region prosperous and sustainable. Valley Vision works in 15 California counties. Valley Vision is under contract with PG&E to deliver the Green Communities and Energy Careers Experience Program (ECEP) to provide smaller, rural and hard to reach communities and local governments across San Joaquin Valley with the information, resources and tools they need to reduce energy consumption, achieve the state's climate change goals, and to prepare a talent pipeline of young professionals who can fulfill the employment needs within California's growing

energy industry. Valley Vision conducted a study on the successes and barriers to energy action planning and implementation for local governments in the San Joaquin Valley. As appropriate or needed, Valley Vision may provide input based on findings from this study to assist in policy and or procedure development that could improve the administration of energy efficiency and planning programs.

RHTR has a primary goal of advancing local, regional and state policy and regulatory decisions in rural California to bring consistent and quality energy services and products necessary to meet the state's energy efficiency and sustainability goals in our represented communities. RHTR seeks party status to this proceeding to offer its input as a collection of implementers of government and community partnerships for energy efficiency throughout the rural areas of California. Furthermore, RHTR believes its input regarding the implementation of energy efficiency programs through its various partnerships is pertinent to the issues covered in this proceeding.

The participation of RHTR in this proceeding will not prejudice any party, delay the schedule, or broaden the scope of issues in the proceeding.

III. SERVICE

Service of notices, orders, and other communications in this proceeding should be directed to the addresses set forth below:

Jon Griesser
Chair, RHTR
Supervisor, Energy and Climate Programs
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos St. #300, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5611
jgriesser@co.slo.ca.us

Courtney Kalashian
Co-Chair, RHTR
Executive Director
San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
4747 N. First Street, Suite 140, Fresno, CA 93726
(877) 748-0841
ckalashian@pesc.com

IV. CONCLUSION

The Rural Hard to Reach Local Government Partnerships Working Group respectfully requests that the California Public Utilities Commission expedite approval of this request so that it may file comments regarding the ruling of Assigned Commissioner Peterman and Administrative Law Judge Fitch seeking input on approaches for statewide and third-party programs prior to the June 27, 2016 deadline.

Dated: June 23, 2016

Respectfully submitted,



Jon Griesser
Chair, RHTR
Supervisor, Energy and Climate Programs
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos St. #300, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5611
jgriesser@co.slo.ca.us



Courtney Kalashian
Co-Chair, RHTR
Executive Director
San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
4747 N. First Street, Suite 140, Fresno, CA 93726
(877) 748-0841
ckalashian@pesc.com